(c) The steps taken by the Government of India to protect tigers and other wildlife are given in the Statement [Refer to the Statement appended to the Answer to USO 2948 Part (c)]

Coastal Regulation Zone

2952. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that delay in finalizing Coastal Regulation Zone is hampering the development of tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) by when the matter on Coastal Regulation Zone is going to be finalized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) No, Sir. For the purpose of promoting environmentally sustainable tourism, the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 permits development of hotels and beach resorts in designated areas of Coastal Regulation Zone-III.

(c) Does not arise.

Clearance to deep water ports

2953. SHRI PENUMALLI MADHU: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the clearances required to establish deep water port;

(b) whether deep water port at Gangavaram in Andhra Pradesh has applied for clearance; and

(c) if so, what would be the time-frame to clear such environmental obligations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Establishment and modernization/expansion of major ports requires prior environmental clearance under Environment Impact Assessment Notification, 1994. Development of minor ports and activities relating to modernization and expansion of minor ports, attracts the provisions of Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The project pertaining to "Development of Port at Gangavaram near Visakhapatnam by M/s Gangavaram Port Limited" was accorded clearance under the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991 on 11.3.2005 subject to environmental safeguards and conditions.

Demarcation of vulnerability line along the coastal areas

2954. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 1880 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 9th December, 2005 and state:

(a) the details of the steps initiated by Government for demarcation of the vulnerability line along the coastal areas; and

(b) the manner in which the coasts of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai are proposed to be protected by the steps initiated by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Ministry of Environment and Forests has assigned Survey of India, Dehradun, Space Application Centre, Ahmedabad, Centre for Earth Science Studies, Trivendrum and Department of Ocean Development, New Delhi for demarcation of vulnerability line as recommended in the Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report constituted by the Ministry for reviewing the Coastal Regulation Zone Notification, 1991.

(b) As per the recommendations of the above report, coastal areas of Mumbai and Navi Mumbai would be managed through Integrated Coastal Zone Management Plans prepared taking into account the vulnerability line. For the protection of life and property in coastal areas from natural hazards, the above Report has suggested hard and soft engineering methods including development of bioshields. This Ministry has initiated steps for implementing the recommendations of the Prof. M.S. Swaminathan Committee Report.

Revival of coastline

2955. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's coastline is set for revival after being battered by the Tsunami;